

Next Meeting: June 22, 2005
9:00 a.m. – Washtenaw Intermediate School District

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 1, 2005 Meeting
10:00 a.m.

Present: Cindy Anderson, Kathleen Clegg, Cheryl Ervin, Janice Fialka, Darlene Heard-Thomas, Elaine High, Ric Hogerheide, Jill Jacobs, Patricia Keller, Dara Knill, Maggie Kolk (for Patt Clement), Jim Kubaiko, Paul Kubicek, Jerry Oermann, Anne Richardson, Debs Roush, Chuck Saur, Steve Schwartz, Larry Simpson, Deb Todd, Randall VanGasse, Colette Ward, Julie Winkelstern
Ex-Officio Members: David Brock (for Jacquelyn Thompson), Mark Larson, Lee Martin, Rosanne Renauer, Michele Robinson

Absent: Gloria Anderson, Pansy Coleman, Sheri Falvay, Dodie Raycraft, Julie Shore, Jeff Siegel

OSE/EIS Staff: Judy Hazelo, Fran Loose, Patti Oates-Ulrich

Guests: Beverly Baroni-Yeglic, Michelle Driscoll, Catherine Kronick, Sandi Laham

Vice Chairperson Ric Hogerheide called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Introduction of Guests

Guests attending the meeting were introduced.

Amend/Approve Proposed Agenda

The agenda of the June 1, 2005 meeting was considered. Paul Kubicek moved, seconded by Elaine High, to approve the agenda as written. The motion carried.

Amend/Approve Minutes

The minutes of the May 4, 2005 meeting were considered. Elaine High noted that Paul Kubicek also helped her and Pat Keller count chairperson ballots. Chuck Saur moved, seconded by Jerry Oermann, to approve the minutes as amended. The motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Member Issues

None

Chairperson's Report – Ric Hogerheide

A. Year-End Report

The Year-End Report will be emailed on the listserv once all reports have been completed. A hard copy will be provided in the 2005-06 SEAC notebook.

State Reports – David Brock

A. Update: State Board of Education meeting

At the May State Board of Education meeting, the Board received an update on activities of the Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind and approved SEAC members for 2005-06. In June, the Board will receive information on the single-tier due process magistrate system and the submitted application for federal funds. The application will bring approximately \$364 million in Part B money into the Department; some of which will be used to operate the state office, but most will go toward the operation of programs and services in school districts.

B. Update: IDEIA 2004 Reauthorization Activities

David Brock summarized the documents out for the public comment period ending June 15. These documents include the IEP form and manual, the policy on placement in private schools, the IEP/IFSP form, procedural safeguards, and the Continuous Improvement Monitoring System. The public comment will be summarized and then discussed at the joint SEAC/State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) meeting on June 22. David explained that public comment has been light, possibly because the documents are largely for compliance with IDEIA 2004 federal legislation. The new IDEIA takes effect July 1, hence the rushed approval period.

With regard to the IEP form and manual, Steve Schwartz asked if it is strictly the parent's decision as to whether or not a re-evaluation is provided at the time that a student graduates or ages out of the program. David clarified that a summary of the student's academic achievement and functional performance is required, but that may not be what the parent wants. Mark Larson asked if the curriculum benchmarks in Michigan are from the Michigan Curriculum Framework. David confirmed. Mark asked if the office will look at a student's movement with regard to least restrictive environment, assuming that the student should be in general education classrooms more as time goes on. David

confirmed that reintegration into general education classrooms would be looked at. Deb Todd stated that the IEP form does not have canned goals and objectives. David confirmed.

With regard to the procedural safeguards document, Mark asked if there was a definition of “screening” versus “evaluation.” David responded that he didn’t think so, but that the intent is similar to kindergarten hearing and vision screenings, not an evaluation for special education eligibility. Cheryl Ervin wondered if the screening information could be used at the IEP without parental permission. David stated yes, except that it could not take the place of the evaluation of eligibility.

With regard to the policy statement on placement in private schools for students with disabilities, Mark asked if there are charter schools specializing in serving students with disabilities in Michigan. David responded that there are some schools that specialize only in serving students with disabilities. In addition, strict discipline academies serve only students with behavioral issues. These are public programs.

With regard to the IEP/IFSP form, Steve pointed out that many people will probably check the triangle instead of initialing and suggested adding a line after the triangle so people realize initials are needed.

Paul Kubicek clarified that the June 22 meeting is not for bringing new comment; it is SEAC’s opportunity to react to the Department’s response to the public comment submitted by June 15.

C. UPDATE: MDE OSE/EIS Activities

The rules that the SEAC has supported this year became final on May 20 and are now available on the website. The magistrate system goes into effect on July 1, 2006; the Department will operate under current system until then. In the meantime, the Department will hire and train three full time civil servants as administrative law judges.

A memo on the transition coordinator grandparenting clause will go out to those already employed as transition coordinators. New approvals will not be granted until the SEAC’s recommendations (scoring rubric, appeal of denied approval) are incorporated into a new procedures document that will go through a public comment period. Jerry Oermann asked if the grandparenting clause only applied to ISDs and not locals. David said he didn’t think there was any local person funded under the grant. Discussion followed.

Information Items

None

Action Items

A. Pupil Accounting Rule

Elaine High presented the recommendation form regarding changes to the pupil accounting rule. Cindy Anderson moved, seconded by Chuck Saur, to approve the recommendation. The motion carried.

Ex-Officio Reports

Institutions of Higher Education – Mark Larson – None

Michigan Department of Community Health – Sheri Falvay – None

Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth/Rehabilitation Services – Rosanne Renauer – Rosanne announced that the legislation that Michigan Rehabilitation Services is funded under has been passed by the Michigan House of Representatives and Senate and is currently in committee. Michigan Rehabilitation Services is hopeful about the outcome. Rosanne went on to summarize other details about the bill. Rosanne also mentioned that she attended the Disability Caucus this morning where interagency agreements between Rehabilitation Services and post-secondary institutions were discussed. She stated that she left the meeting with the sense that the Representatives have a much better understanding of the provision of accommodations and the funding of those accommodations.

Family Independence Agency – Lee Martin – None

Michigan Department of Corrections – Michele Robinson – None

Committee Reports

A. General Supervision – Colette Ward

Colette gave an overview of the subcommittee's work for this year that will be included in the year-end report.

B. School Age – Steve Schwartz

Steve reported that the group devoted time last month toward planning for the June 22 meeting and discussed guest speaker guidelines. Debs Roush briefly summarized the guidelines that will be further worked on next year.

C. Secondary Transition – Elaine High

Elaine gave an overview of the subcommittee's work for this year that will be included in the year-end report.

Member Announcements

Steve mentioned a third bill on bullying presented by Representative Anderson. Steve expressed a desire that the SEAC examine the issue in the future.

Randy VanGasse announced that on Sunday he had the distinct pleasure of presenting his daughter with her high school diploma.

Rosanne announced that she would no longer be serving as the Michigan Rehabilitation Services representative. It is uncertain who will take her place, but she is recommending that Lynn Boza be the new representative and Catherine Kronick be the new alternate.

Future Agenda Consideration

A. Request to cancel July and August Committee of the Whole meetings

Jerry Oermann moved, seconded by Steve Schwartz, to cancel the July and August Committee of the Whole meeting. Anne Richardson pointed out that the Federal Regulations are coming out over the summer and expressed concern that the SEAC would not be able to meet in time to address it if the summer meetings were cancelled. The motion carried.

Recognition of Outgoing Members

Ric presented outgoing SEAC members with certificates of appreciation. Ric also presented David with a retirement card and gift from the SEAC.

Steve Schwartz moved, seconded by Paul Kubicek, to adjourn. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Amanda Whitehead
Recording Secretary

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Executive Committee
Minutes of June 1, 2005 Meeting
8:45 a.m.

Present: David Brock, Elaine High, Ric Hogerheide, Pat Keller, Paul Kubicek, Sandi Laham, Fran Loose, Patti Oates-Ulrich, Debs Roush, Chuck Saur, Steve Schwartz, Larry Simpson, Deb Todd, Collette Ward
Absent: Patt Clement, Jacquelyn Thompson

Review of Today's Agenda

In preparation for the joint SEAC/State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) meeting on June 22, David Brock will walk the Committee of the Whole through four documents currently out for public comment. The Department will compile and respond to the public comment after the period closes on June 15 and then ask for the SEAC and SICC's reaction. David distributed a short handout on how to access the documents for public comment.

The recommendation on the pupil accounting rule will be presented for action.

State Department Report

David will give the state department report in Jacquelyn Thompson's absence. The rules that SEAC has supported this year became final on May 20. The magistrate system goes into effect on July 1, 2006. The Department will recruit and train administrative law judges in the meantime. The grandpersoning of current transition coordinators under the new qualifications is in effect. New approvals of transition coordinators will not be granted until the SEAC's recommendations (scoring rubric, appeal of denied approval) are incorporated into a new procedures document and it goes through a public comment period.

In May, the State Board of Education approved the nominations to the 2005-06 SEAC and received a report on the activities of the Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind. In June the Board will receive information on the single tier due process magistrate system, the Department's application for \$364 million in federal funding, and the Tuscola ISD plan.

Subcommittee Reports

Debs Roush provided an edited list of guest speaker parameters based on the work of the school age subcommittee last month. Steve Schwartz distributed the subcommittee's year-end report.

Elaine High summarized the secondary transition subcommittee's activities for the year.

Future Agenda Development

The executive committee discussed the proposed tentative agenda for the June 22 meeting. Fran Loose edited the agenda according to the suggestions of the executive committee. The SICC meets on Friday, June 17 and will have the opportunity to provide additional input.

Steve suggested a SEAC alumni gathering be scheduled. Ric suggested current members make an effort to keep in touch with SEAC alumni.

Other Issues

Steve mentioned that the SEAC expansion bill is headed toward the House Education Committee chaired by Representative Palmer. There doesn't seem to be any opposition to the bill, but the committee is busy and the issue is just waiting to be moved forward.

The executive committee set retreat planning dates as follows:

- Wednesday, July 13, 1-4:30
- Wednesday, August 10, 9-4
- Friday, August 19, 9-4

Amanda will attempt to arrange meeting space at the Michigan Education Association in East Lansing. Once finalized Amanda will email directions.